

LOCATION

New Haven, CT

OWNER

New Haven Public Schools

DELIVERY METHOD

General Contractor

ARCHITECT

Christopher Williams Architects

HILLHOUSE HIGH SCHOOL MANUFACTURING LAB

Hillhouse High School's new 3,000 sq ft advanced manufacturing lab is helping students step confidently into the future. Designed to support hands-on training in CNC machining, welding, 3D printing, and other high-tech tools, the lab gives students access to real-world equipment and instruction that directly connect to growing career opportunities in manufacturing and engineering.

Delivered through a traditional design-bid-build process, the project was made possible by the close coordination of Milestone Construction Services, Christopher Williams Architects, IES Engineering, and the City of New Haven. From preconstruction through closeout, the team worked in lockstep with school leadership, public agencies, vendors, and subcontractors to meet the complex demands of building a specialized learning environment within an active high school campus.

Flexibility, communication, and shared commitment defined the team's approach. Construction hours and delivery schedules were adapted in real time to minimize disruption to students and staff. Coordination with third-party equipment vendors ensured infrastructure was ready for seamless installation and commissioning. Prior to mobilization, Milestone held a preconstruction safety meeting with all trades to align expectations. Daily site inspections, toolbox talks, and safety walkthroughs were led by the superintendent to reinforce site-specific protocols. Despite the challenges of working on an active school campus, the project had zero recordable safety incidents.

The end result is a facility that not only meets the technical demands of today's manufacturing sector but also reflects a deeper investment in community and equity. With many students coming from historically underserved backgrounds, the lab represents a tangible step toward greater opportunity.

